

Assembly Bill No. 1848

CHAPTER 728

An act to amend Section 8592.6 of the Government Code, relating to homeland security.

[Approved by Governor September 29, 2006. Filed with
Secretary of State September 29, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1848, Bermudez. Homeland security: interoperable public safety communication network.

Existing law provides for the coordination of state and local public safety agencies and emergency response teams to respond to emergencies. Existing law administered by the Federal Communications Commission authorizes public safety agencies or entities to operate radio communication systems on specified frequencies of the radio spectrum and directs states to oversee the interoperability of the public safety spectrum.

Existing law also establishes the Public Safety Radio Strategic Planning Committee responsible for implementing a statewide integrated public safety communication system using federally specified frequencies to facilitate interoperability among specified public safety departments and requires the committee to report annually to the Legislature regarding the committee's progress.

This bill would designate the annual report to serve as the state strategic plan for establishing a statewide integrated interoperable public safety communications network and would require the report to include implementation strategies and timelines.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 8592.6 of the Government Code is amended to read:

8592.6. (a) The committee shall report to the Legislature by January 1 of each year on the committee's progress in implementing this article.

(b) (1) The annual report shall serve as the state's strategic plan to establish a statewide integrated, interoperable public safety communications network. The report shall include, but not be limited to, implementation strategies and timelines to achieve the goals and objectives set forth in the report. The implementation strategies and timelines may include identification of resource needs, including data formats, possible funding sources, prioritization of expenditures, and the development of common protocols that build upon industry and governmental standards

for interoperability as set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 8592.5 that will advance the integration of local, regional, and statewide interoperable public safety communication networks. The report shall be updated annually, as strategies, timelines, goals, and objectives are accomplished or changed.

(2) In developing the report, the committee, at its discretion, shall consult with any other local, regional, state, or federal entity with responsibility for developing, operating, or monitoring interoperability of the public safety spectrum, and other first response agencies. The report may include recommendations for local, regional, state, or federal entities to coordinate resources and the development of common protocols to advance the integration of local, regional, and statewide interoperable public safety communication networks.

(c) The report will include a complete listing of purchases by state departments of public safety radio communications equipment, for which a waiver of subdivision (a) of Section 8592.5 was granted by the committee.